

Prairie State Legal Services



DOING THE
RIGHT THING,
RIGHT NOW.



ANNUAL REPORT

2011



PRAIRIE STATE LEGAL SERVICES

Equal Access to Justice

AWARDS & HONORS

Peoria Office Receives the 2011 Heartland Partnership Community Wealth Award

The Community Wealth Award was established to recognize a non-profit organization that works towards creating a brighter future in our community and makes it a better place to live. Jim McConoughey, CEO and President of The Heartland Partnership, says “The community wealth award does not reflect financial status but instead it rewards an organization that contributes to the wealth of human capital and quality of life for our region.” The award was sponsored by CEFCU.

During 2010 the PSLS Peoria office, which services Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Western Woodford and Marshall Counties, helped 2,131 adults in cases ranging from domestic violence, denial of benefits, landlord tenant issues and more. The need for legal services for low-income individuals continues to grow and the demand for free legal services in the Peoria area exceeds the resources available at PSLS.

Denise Conklin from Prairie State Legal Services said “Through collaboration Prairie State is able to reach more individuals, and thereby, have a greater positive impact on this community. Thank you to the Heartland Partnership and the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce for recognizing Prairie State through this award.” The award is sponsored by CEFCU.

Attorney Receives CBF Sun-Times Public Interest Law Fellowship

Attorney Kathleen Finn received a Chicago Bar Foundation (CBF) Sun-Times Public Interest Law Fellowship. Created in 2007 through a \$2 million award from a case involving the Sun-Times, the fellowship program provides five attorneys in the public interest and legal aid fields with up to \$50,000 to help pay off their law school debt. Attorneys have to apply for the fellowship program and through a rather competitive process, a selection committee picks five attorneys each year to receive the award. Finn, a staff attorney for Prairie State Legal Services, said \$50,000 over five years will help her reduce her 30-year-student loan repayment plan.

Prairie State Receives Cy Pres Award

In 2011, Prairie State received \$46,000 in Cy Pres funds from the firm Edelman, Combs and Lattuner!

Staff Attorney Wins 2011 Mock Trial Distinguished Service Award

Bloomington Attorney Tristan Bullington won the 2011 Mock Trial Distinguished Service Award. The award was given to in recognition for the many hours he devoted to the ISU mock trial teams as a volunteer coach.

VISTA Receives Award for Public Service

VISTA Heidi Yeh received the 2011-2012 John Marshall Law School Loan Repayment Assistance Program Award (LRAP) for public service.

Prairie State chosen as top 100 charity, awarded \$25,000 by Chase

Prairie State Legal Services was one of the Top 100 charities in the Chase Community Giving program and was awarded a \$25,000 donation.

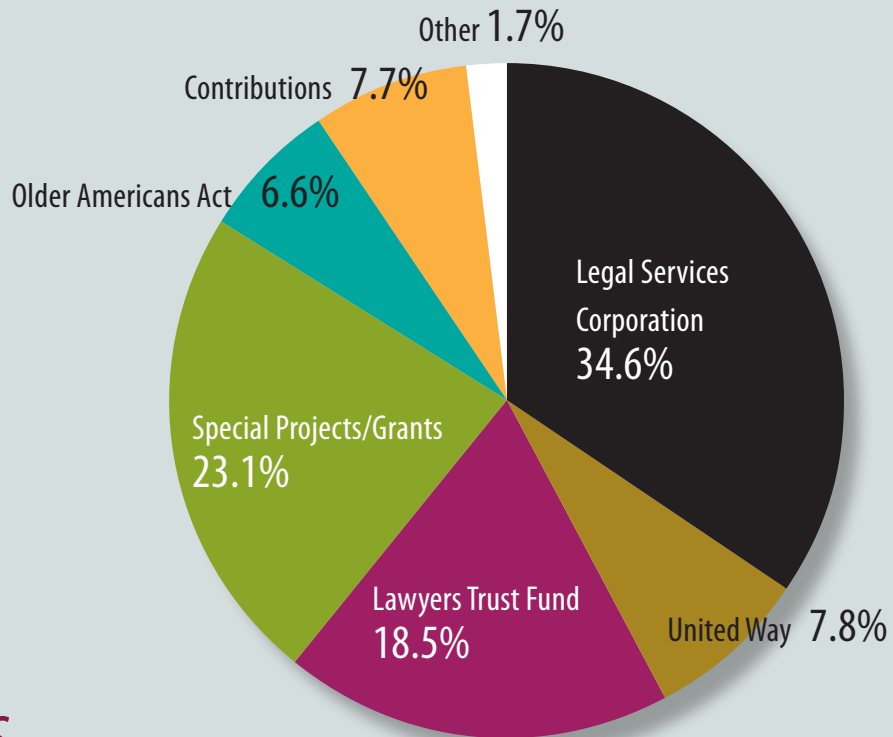


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FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2011

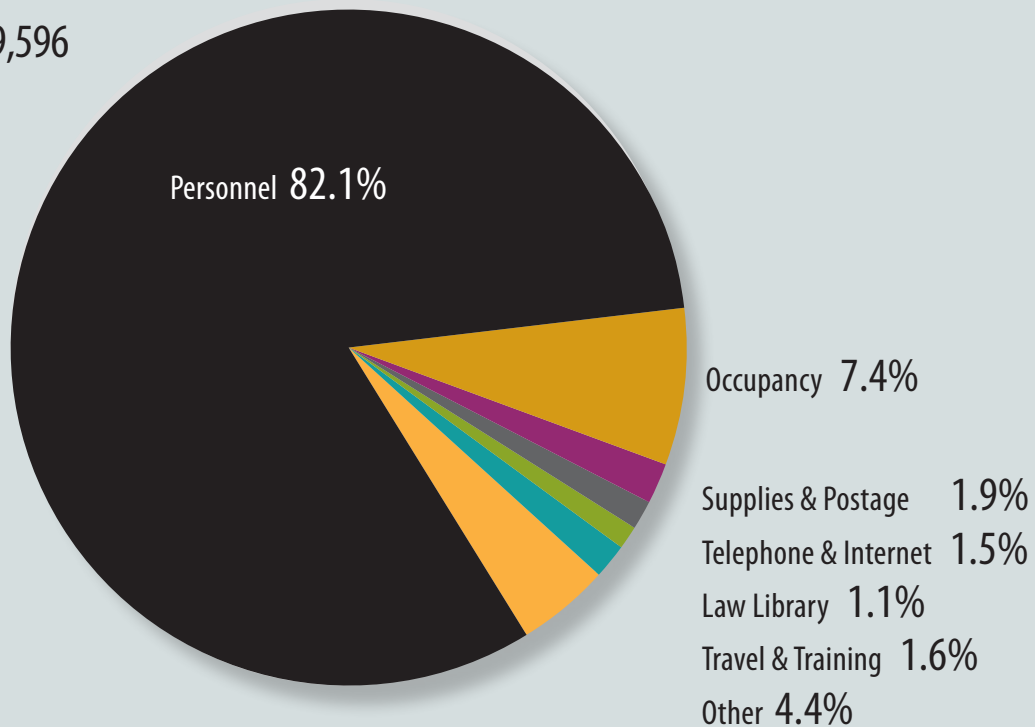
REVENUE

Total: \$8,897,361



EXPENDITURES

Total: \$8,519,596



PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Each year, dozens of partner organizations commit their resources in order to help us provide legal services for populations and communities throughout our service area. In 2011, the following partners helped ensure access to justice for tens of thousands of clients in northern and central Illinois.

American Bar Association	JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Aurora Mental Health & Mental Retardation Services	Joliet Township
The Alfred Bersted Foundation	Kendall County Tax Levy
Bloomington Township	Kishwaukee United Way
Bureau County United Way	Lake County Department of Planning and Development
Catholic Charities	Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois
Central Illinois Agency on Aging	Legal Services Corporation
Chicago Department of Public Health	McHenry County Dept. of Planning and Development
City of Aurora Neighborhood Redevelopment Division	Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging
City of DeKalb	Northwest Illinois HIV Care Connect
City of Peoria Neighborhood Development Division	Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging
City of North Chicago	Rauch Family Foundation 1, Inc.
City of Rockford Department of Human Services	The Retirement Research Foundation
City of Waukegan	Rock Island 708 Mental Health Board
Katherine Clifton Trust	St. Charles Township
County of McHenry Tax Levy	U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development
Doris and Victor Day Foundation, Inc.	United Way of Boone County
DeKalb County Community Services Department	United Way of Central Kane County
DuPage County Community Development Commission	United Way of DuPage County
DuPage County Division of Human Services	United Way of Eastern LaSalle County
The DuPage Community Foundation	United Way of Illinois Valley
Dwight Community Chest	United Way of Kankakee County
East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging	United Way of Knox County
Fairbury United Way	United Way of Lake County
Fox Valley United Way	United Way of Lee County
Galesburg Community Foundation	United Way of McDonough County
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Grundy County United Fund	United Way of McLean County
Heart of Illinois United Way	United Way of Northwest Illinois
Herbolsheimer Foundation	United Way of Northwest Suburban
Illinois Attorney General's Office	United Way of Ogle County
Illinois Bar Foundation	United Way of Pekin
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority	United Way of Pontiac
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services	United Way of Rock River Valley
Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity	United Way of the Quad Cities Area
Illinois Department of Human Services	United Way of Will County
Illinois Housing Development Authority	University of Illinois
Illinois Equal Justice Foundation	Warren County United Way
Illinois Prairie Community Foundation	Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Internal Revenue Service	Will County Treasurer



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Thank you

We thank our individual and corporate supporters who gave so generously in time and money to Prairie State Legal Services in 2011.

\$10,000 or more

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